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Vaccination A Great Blessing

It is one of the strange psychological phenomena that men are to be found, even in the ranks of a profession in which the exercise of common sense is so indispensable a requisite, who will toy with the most serious concerns of public welfare, in reckless disregard of facts that have long passed beyond the reach of reasonable dispute; who indulge in denunciation of a protective measure that has stood the crucial test of long experience, that has successfully withstood all the hostile attacks of ignorance, inveterate prejudice and unreasoning opposition, to find itself firmly established as one of the greatest blessings that ever originated in a mind endowed with the scientific genius and the gift of self-devotion to humanity. There are, no doubt, those who are sincere in their protests but are misled by the occurrence and the report of cases in which vaccination has been followed by untoward consequences.

Against the fact, based on statistics, that in the 18th century one-tenth of human beings died with small-pox (in Europe annually 400,000), another tenth were disfigured, and that since the introduction of vaccination the mortality in general and the mortality from smallpox has been reduced to a minimum, objections raised against vaccination, even if they were well supported, fall to the ground. This statement was made by one of the highest medical authorities nearly half a century ago, when the efforts to suppress variola were comparatively defective, but when we examine the results of a thorough organization any doubt that may still linger in the mind of sensible people as to the protection afforded by vaccination against a most dreaded disease is bound to vanish.

The German laws which have been enacted for the suppression of smallpox have been recognized in many foreign countries as models of their kind. Their provisions, both for compulsory vaccination and for the hygienic policing and treatment of small pox cases, are so conscientiously and thoroughly carried out that the misery and terrors of an epidemic of the dreaded disease are unknown to the present generation. If a case occurs now and then it is usually one that has been imported from other countries.

According to the statistics furnished by the Imperial Board of Health in 1904, the last year of which complete figures are available, there were 180 cases of smallpox in the German Empire, of which 25 were fatal. More than one-fourth of the persons afflicted, namely 58, or 28.6 per cent., were of foreign origin. The great results of the organized efforts which this country is making to stamp out smallpox are clearly shown in the death rate from the disease per 100,000 inhabitants as compared with other European countries. In the whole German Empire the proportion in 1904 was .04; in Switzerland, 12; in Holland, 22; in 70 cities and districts of Austria-Hungary, 176; in 77 Belgian cities and in 8 of the suburbs of the city of Brussels, 14.11; in 71 of the larger French cities, 6.39, and in 76 of the large cities of England, 1.36.

To Supervise Central America

A joint protectorate exercised by the United States and Mexico over a union of Central American States is the latest proposition for insuring permanent peace among the small republics. The idea is ascribed to President Diaz, and has caused great commotion among the Central American diplomats at Washington.

An incident to the conclusion of the treaty of Amapala between Salvador, Honduras and Nicaragua was the agreement between these States that a conference should be held later to insure the continuance of peace in Central America. It is surmised that there is no obstacle to the adhesion of Guatemala and Costa Rica to the agreement which may be reached by the projected conference, and thus in effect would be formed a confederacy of the Central American States, though each of the elements might preserve its individuality and its own Government.

It is said that an American protectorate over such a loose confederation, singly or in combination with Mexico, is entirely out of the question, the executive branch of the Government being without authority to enter upon such an arrangement, even if it so desired, and there does not seem to be any reason to suppose the State Department would so desire. A protectorate, however, is a very different matter from supervision.

In this connection it is significant that George H. Murphy, United States Consul General-at-Large in Canada, Mexico, Central America and South America, is devoting his attention to Central America with a view to making a report on the treatment of the subjects of one republic when they enter the territory of another. Friction in this respect is held to be largely responsible for the frequent outbreaks. It has not been made clear just what action our Government can take after it secures the desired information, but it is believed the inquiry is a part of the programme of the United States and Mexico to exercise some sort of supervision of the Central American countries.

London Thinks We Slight Japan

Neglect of the United States Government to invite Prince Fushimi to visit Washington has caused astonishment among the London diplomatic corps. To these people the failure of President Roosevelt to express an earnest desire to extend the hospitality of America to Prince Fushimi seems like a slight to Japan.

They wonder at the American President's failure to seize an opportunity to promote friendly relations with Japan. In the course of a few weeks, they say, Fushimi will be in Canada, within a short distance of the American capital and other great American cities. It fills them with amazement to hear that no request has been sent to this distinguished Japanese to cross the American border and become a guest of the American nation. They argue that there is no country in the west which should cultivate Japanese friendship more assiduously than America. They recall that only a short time ago, when the California trouble was at an acute stage, dispatches came daily to European newspapers telling of the strained relations between Japan and America, and even suggesting the possibility of war between the two countries. And now when the trouble that gave rise to these alarming dispatches is only half settled the American Government purposes to permit a great Japanese prince to cross the American continent without extending him the slightest courtesy.

It is claimed that Prince Fushimi would be glad to visit Washington if asked to do so. The fact that he visited America three years ago was mentioned by Prince Fushimi's aide as an explanation of the omission in his literary of a side trip from Canada to the United States, but it seemed as if this was a diplomatic speech, and that if the aide had told the whole truth he would have said that Fushimi was keeping out of the United States because he was not asked to go there. It is not assumed that President Roosevelt in withholding an invitation to Fushimi to visit him had meant a slight to Japan. The theory is that there has been a lack of alertness on the part of officials of the American Government in not directing the President's attention to the favorable opportunity to gratify Japan by honoring one of her great men.

COLORADO AND YELLOW PROBLEM

In this issue of The News is given a picture of the Japanese immigration to this State. Six months ago the Japanese population of Denver was estimated at 600. Now it is above 1000. There are nearly 2000 of the little brown men working in the beet fields. Here, as everywhere else, they bring as much of Japan along as is possible. The Japanese supply houses of this city import practically everything that their countrymen use, except the meat and bread they eat and the overalls they wear. It is more than likely that they occasionally import their customers too, under contract.

These conditions must impress every thoughtful man as being worthy the most serious study. As yet the Japanese are a small fraction of our population, it is true. But they are a steadily increasing part. They are working their way rapidly to the East; and the experience of Hawaii tells us what that region may expect which acquires a Japanese majority. Beginning as day laborers, they have steadily encroached on every field of industry. They are a profit only to their employers; a temporary profit, even then. Their clannishness makes them give their own race every advantage in trade, while the whites think only of comfort or cheapness until it is too late to think of other things. The Japanese have fixed the type of civilization for Hawaii; and if their influx is not checked they will fix it for many a portion of the mainland of the United States as well.

And this The News holds would be an unmitigated calamity. We have no patience with the cry that the Japanese must be excluded because they are an inferior race. They are inferior in some ways, but superior in others; and The News has no means of striking a balance between the good and ill. We object to the Japanese as immigrants not because they are inferior, for we are not sure that they are so; but because they are different, hopelessly different, and must always remain so. The Japanese in our midst is an alien, and is proud of the fact. The course of evolution has made him a very different creature from ourselves. The keynote of American civilization is the care for individual freedom. The keynote of Japanese life is loyalty, the sacrifice of the individual to the master or to the State. The legends of our race too often glorify the outlaw who sets all restraint at defiance, and owns no rule but his own unbridled way. The Japanese legends are typified in that of the forty-seven Ronins, who endure exile, starvation, humiliation and death to revenge the death of their master and bring his enemy's head to his tomb.

Their race is different from ours, theirs customs are different, their ideals are different, their religion is different. The two will not mix. They cannot adopt our ways, nor marry with our people. And the people whom we cannot admit to intermarriage we should not admit at all. The United States is a democracy, a government of the people; and for the people to govern themselves successfully they must be of the same race and have the same ideals. We have a negro problem now to which no man can see the answer. If we have left a single atom of wisdom we shall not add a yellow problem to the one which now baffles us. The Eastern papers which sneered at California were very ill advised. California was the outpost, that is all. When that State demanded the exclusion of Japanese coolies she was asking a boon for all the States. The News is glad that Colorado backed her Western sister in that demand. And The News would suggest that exclusion laws are not self-operative, and that if we wish to really stop the Japanese immigration we must let our inspectors know that they are doing their work in the public eye.—Denver News.

Let every city take its own census and we'd have all the population we want. St. Louis has started the ball.—Memphis News-Scimitar.

It occurs to us that there is no special reason for any great excitement or bother at this early day about the next presidential campaign or candidates. All in good time. The people have a year of prosperity before them yet—as prosperous apparently as any of the golden years that have gone before. Their politics is not in chaotic shape and they are not to be diverted from the serious business of life. And they are abundantly able to take care of themselves at the proper time.—Indianapolis News.

However, it is impossible to believe in the total depravity of even the republican party since nobody has mentioned Boies Penrose for Vice President.—Louisville Courier-Journal.

We can't quite make out from Col. Watterson's metaphors whether his "dark horse" for President who would "fill the loose sails of the old ship Zion with hopeful gales and perhaps prove an Abraham Lincoln to the lost sheep of the house of Jefferson and Jackson and Tilden" is a big bassoon player or merely a sheep herder. By the way, mint has begun to grow in the bluegrass country.—New York Sun.

They have a baseball team in Massachusetts composed entirely of preachers. The name of the organization isn't given, but it would seem as if something like Hittites would be eminently appropriate.—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

"We fishermen," said Havelock Morton, California's famous fly caster, "are continually being accused of intemperance. The accusation is false. No intemperate man could ever cast a fly. Yet a friend of mine had the effrontery to declare that out walking in the country he had met an angler beside a brook and had said to the man: 'How can you tell the good places from the bad when you come to a stream?' 'By the bottles,' the man answered. 'Wherever the most empty bottles are scattered is the best place.'"

Fine Job Printing, Star Office.